

# ABSOLUTE BATMAN



**ALL IN**

13+  
TEEN

2



SNYDER  
DRAGOTTA  
MARTIN

THE MAN OF STEEL: EXILED TO THE PHANTOM ZONE!

*SUPERMAN*

**ACTION**

*COMICS*

© & TM DC.



A new era for  
comics' first and greatest  
superhero series courtesy  
of **MARK WAID**  
and **CLAYTON HENRY**

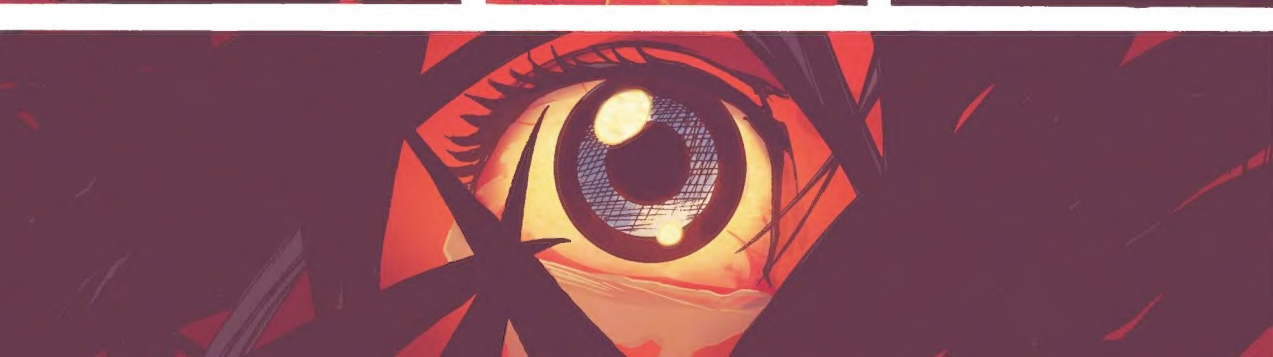
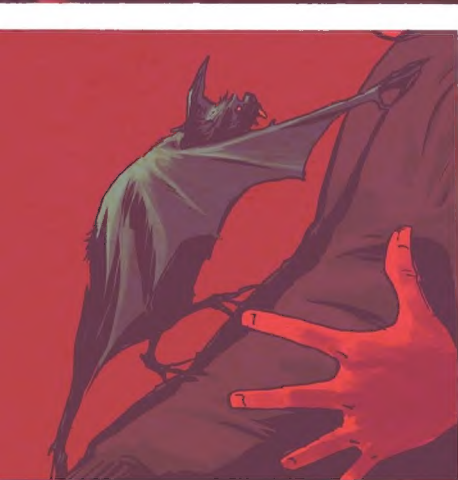
PLUS: **MARIKO TAMAKI**  
and **SKYLAR PATRIDGE**  
take Supergirl to "Universe End"



**ALL IN**

**GO ALL IN  
WEEKLY**









ABSOLUTE  
BATMAN

# "THE ZOO"

PART TWO  
OF FIVE





Over the next two weeks, the Party Animals escalate their offensive on Gotham.

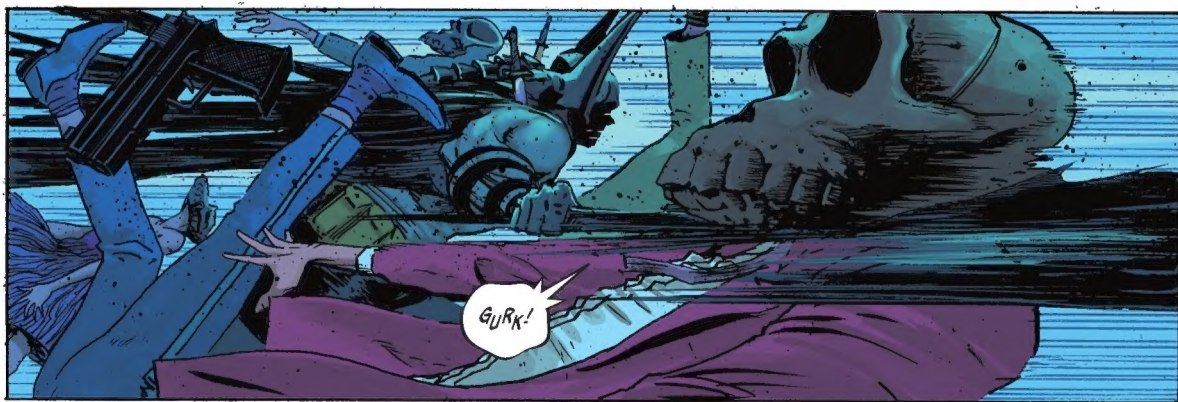


And in return, Batman escalates his offensive on them.

AAGH!



He isn't everywhere, but he seems to know where their biggest attacks will be, and he meets them head-on. Like tonight at the aquarium.



GURK!



And for my part, I've tried to help him. Added surveillance protections.

Because the more he disrupts, the more Sionis steps up the battle, the more data I collect, which gets me that much closer to leaving Gotham.





Lately, Sionis has brought in more of them--his Party Animals.

--DEAD NOW, @##\$%--

--CARVE YOU--

Enough to take on a small militia.

When I was in Special Forces, my commanders always said what makes a great leader is knowing when to advance forward and when to retreat and regroup.



Campaigns are long. One AF, one RR.



Every battle, I think this one, this is where he'll realize it's time to retreat and regroup.

And yet...



RAHHH!



SPLOOSH



...he plans everything.

GOTHAM

USES everything.







A fighter who knows the terrain takes advantage.

HA! WOW. YOU GOT US WET--

CAN'T STAY UP THERE FOREVER--



Like when he employs a chemically concentrated version of vinegar...



...to turn the salt water into hydrochloric acid.



PLEASE! IT BUUURNS--

@#% TOES ARE GONE--

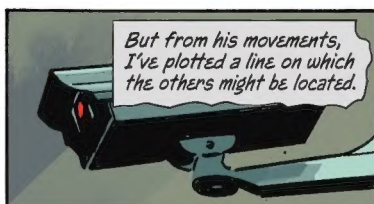


HEH.



He has stash houses all over the city--not one but many. Caves.

I haven't been able to pinpoint more than a few.



But from his movements, I've plotted a line on which the others might be located.



YOU HAVE TO BE @#%& KIDDING ME.



And if anything...

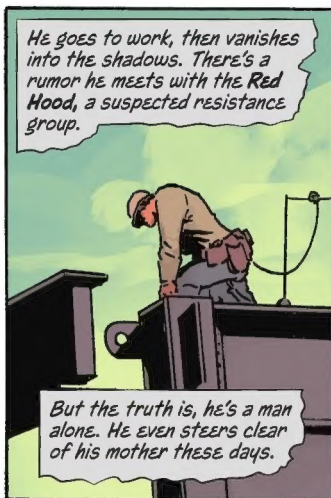




...he's certainly committed to the bit.



When he's not the Bat, his routine is monastically tight.



He goes to work, then vanishes into the shadows. There's a rumor he meets with the Red Hood, a suspected resistance group.

But the truth is, he's a man alone. He even steers clear of his mother these days.

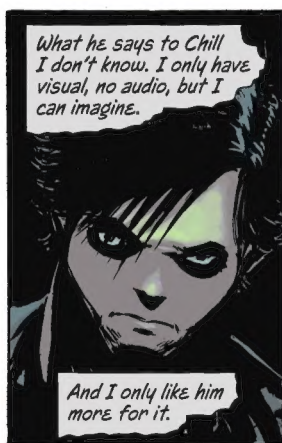


He breaks from routine only **ONCE** during these weeks.

To make a stop that catches me off guard.



To visit Joseph Chill. His father's killer.



What he says to Chill I don't know. I only have visual, no audio, but I can imagine.

And I only like him more for it.



Another week in, my handler tells me I have to drop protections from Batman. They say he's become too volatile a factor.



I consider pushing back, telling him that Batman has helped my mission.



That in fact, his provocations have helped me form a new theory on who Sionis is, what he's a part of...I think about making my case.

Instead, I remove the protections.



Soon after, the Party Animals find his caves in the empty high-rises, as I did.



I try to picture Bruce up there. At the moment he finally understands.

When he SEES...



...and gets the message. "Retreat and Regroup, Batman. R #5@& R."





But that moment  
doesn't come.

COME  
ON!



And it hits  
me then.



HOLY...



Maybe that's  
what he is.



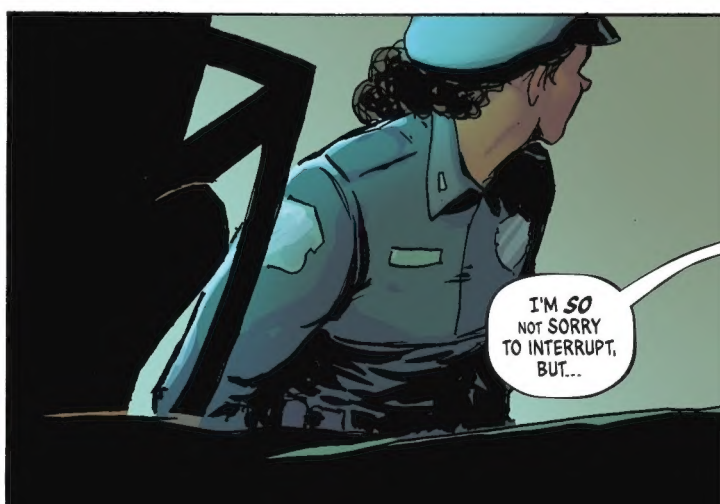
All he is...



...one long advance  
forward.

Batman  
AF.









...COME  
HERE, YOU.

HOW'S HE  
DOING?



I'M  
FINE, JUST A  
LITTLE--



AH, BUT  
I WASN'T ASKING  
YOU. BABS?

THEY GOT HIM  
BAD, MARTHA. HE  
NEEDS REST.



NOT  
THAT HE'LL  
LISTEN.



BULLOCK.

CALM  
DOWN.  
THEY HIT  
WHAT?



THE PARTY ANIMALS  
ARE TEARING UP THE  
PORT AUTHORITY.

COME  
ON.

BE  
CAREFUL.



REST,  
DUMMY.

DO I  
HAVE A  
CHOICE?



SHE'S  
A GOOD  
KID.

TOO  
GOOD.

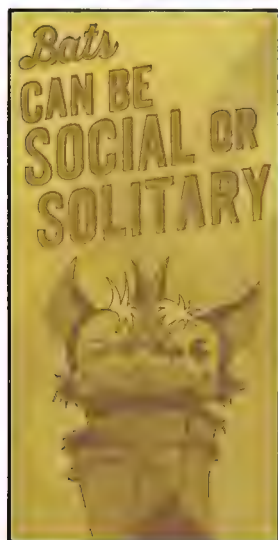


WHAT IS  
THIS WORLD WE'VE  
GIVEN THEM, MAR? WHEN  
WE WERE THEIR AGE, WE  
WERE CRAZY, SURE, THINKING  
WE COULD CHANGE IT ALL.  
BUT IT STILL FELT POSSIBLE  
THEN, YOU KNOW?



YEAH,  
WELL...

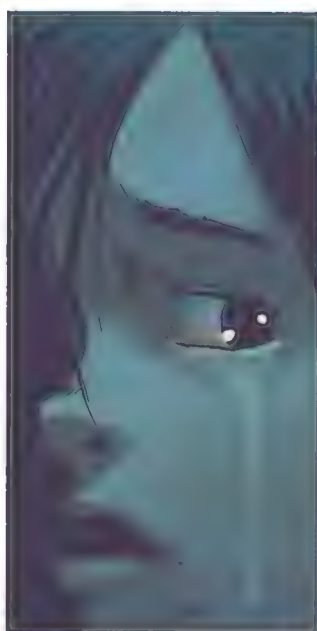
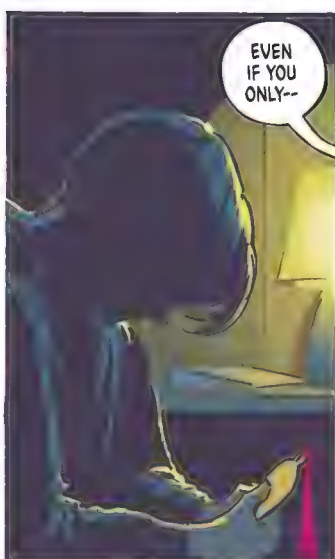
















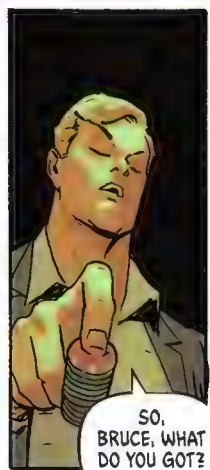
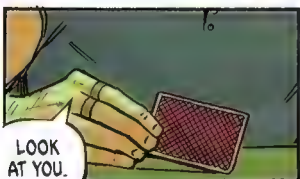
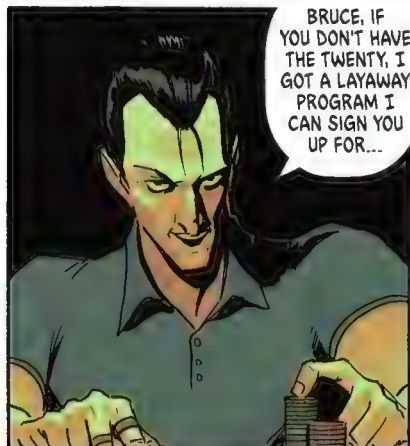




TWENTY. WE'LL TAKE YOUR MONEY. WE'RE PLAYING FOR THE BIG POT. 1,700 AND CHANGE UP FOR GRABS.



I WOULD ACTUALLY SAY THAT 1,728 IS *AFoot*. SEE WHAT I DID THERE? BECAUSE THE EXACT POT HAPPENS TO BE THE VOLUME OF A *CUBIC FOOT*? TWELVE TIMES TWELVE TIMES...









HIGH-TECH, HEAVILY ARMED.  
THE PARTY ANIMALS MUST BE  
MOVING IN ON EVERYONE'S  
TERRITORY...

OSZIE?

WHY THE  
@#% WOULD I  
KNOW, BRUCE? JUST  
BECAUSE MY BUSINESS  
IS ATYPICAL, YOU  
THINK--

RELAX. I  
WAS JUST  
ASKING IF YOU'RE  
STILL IN.

...OH.

"ATYPICAL."  
THAT'S GOOD.

FOR WHAT IT'S WORTH, THE PARTY ANIMALS  
AREN'T MOVING IN ON *ANYTHING*. FAR AS  
I CAN TELL, THESE GUYS ARE JUST OUT  
TO WRECK THE CITY.

WORD IS,  
THEIR MAN?  
"ROMAN"? HE  
KILLS EVERYONE  
WHO MEETS AND  
TRIES TO MAKE  
A DEAL.

AND  
YEAH, I'M  
OUT.

EDDIE?

NAH, I  
GOT KINGS  
COMING MY  
WAY NEXT  
HAND.

WAYLON?

PFFT.

I'M  
OUT,  
TOO

I *WILL*  
SAY, IT'S NICE  
TO SEE YOU  
SO FIRED UP,  
BRUCE.

ALL RIGHT,  
HARV. YOU  
AND ME.

I GOT  
TO ASK,  
THOUGH.

YOU'RE DEEP  
IN. YOU THINK IT'S  
POLITICAL? THE PARTY  
ANIMALS CAUSING  
HAVOC THIS CLOSE TO  
AN ELECTION? YOU  
THINK IT'S TO SINK  
GORDON?

NAH, WE ALL LOVE JIM,  
BUT HE WAS HURTING  
BEFORE ALL THE CHAOS.  
IT'D BE OVERKILL,  
LITERALLY AND  
FIGURATIVELY.

MY *TWO*  
CENTS? IF THIS  
IS POLITICAL, IT'S  
ABOUT MORE  
THAN JUST  
POWER.

WHAT'S  
A BIGGER  
MOTIVATOR  
THAN  
*POWER*?

HA.  
SPOKEN  
LIKE A TRUE  
CRIME ALLEY  
BOY...

...*MONEY*, BROTHER.  
THE SOURCE. THE CHICKEN  
AND THE EGG BOTH.

SPEAKING  
OF WHICH...TWO  
PAIR. YOU?

THREE  
ACES...

...FOUR IF WE'RE  
PLAYING WITH  
*JKERS*.

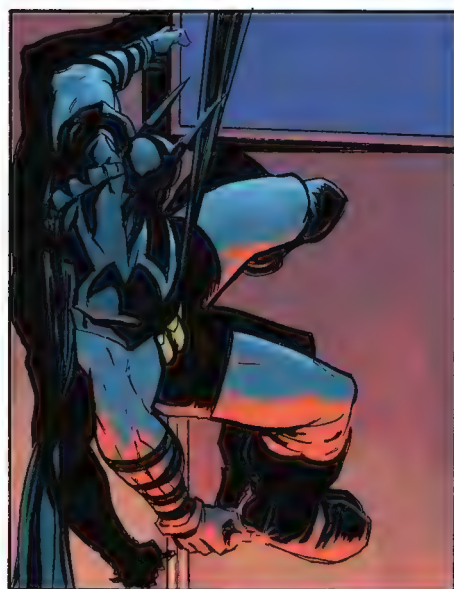
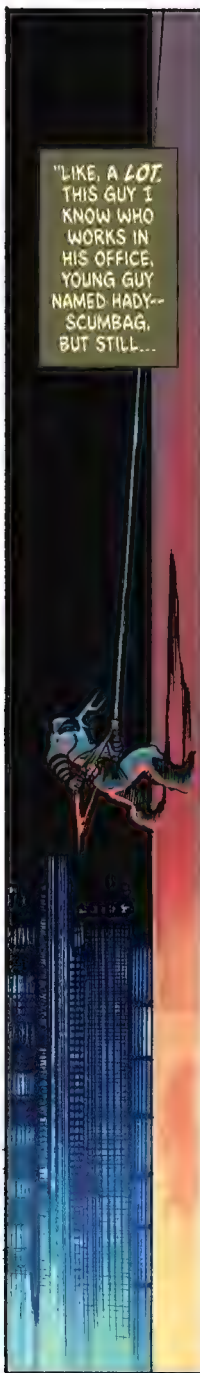
JKERS  
ARE NEVER  
WELCOME  
HERE,  
BRUCE...



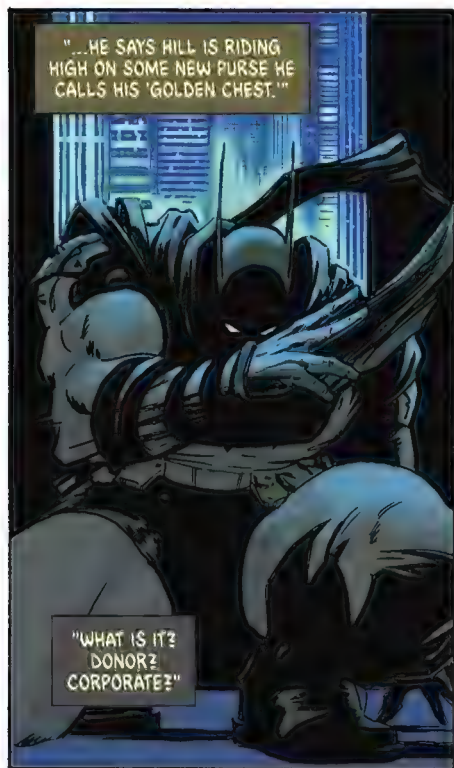
"...SHOULDA NEVER LET YOU IN ON THE POT. AND LOOK, I DON'T KNOW IF IT HAS ANYTHING TO DO WITH THE PARTY ANIMALS, BUT FROM WHAT I HEAR IN THE HALLS, HILL HAS BEEN TAKING IN A LOT OF CAPITAL.



"LIKE, A LOT. THIS GUY I KNOW WHO WORKS IN HIS OFFICE, YOUNG GUY NAMED HADY-- SCUMBAG, BUT STILL...

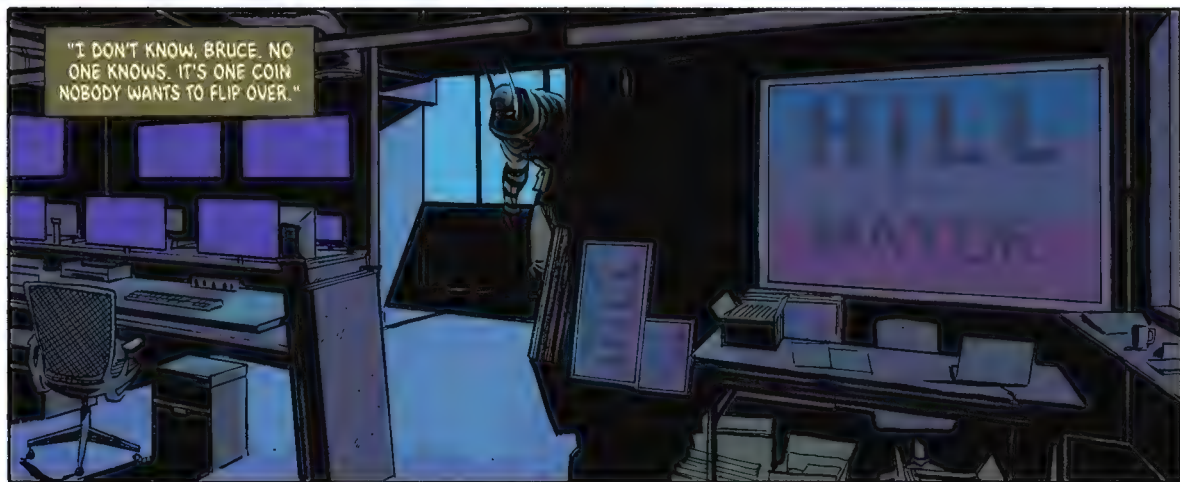


"...HE SAYS HILL IS RIDING HIGH ON SOME NEW PURSE HE CALLS HIS 'GOLDEN CHEST.'"

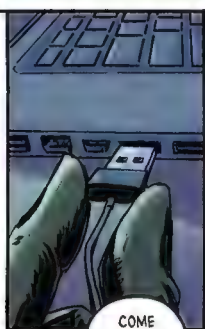


"WHAT IS IT? DONOR? CORPORATE?"

"I DON'T KNOW, BRUCE. NO ONE KNOWS. IT'S ONE COIN NOBODY WANTS TO FLIP OVER."







COME  
ON...WHERE  
ARE YOU?



"A GOLDEN  
CHEST."

ALSO  
KNOWN  
AS...

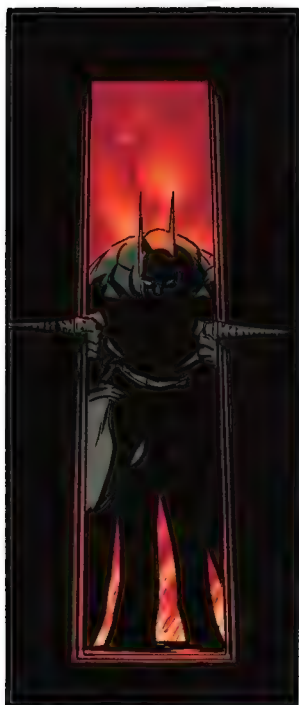


...AN  
"ARK"?









HEAR  
ME OUT.



NO.

YOU'RE A  
GOOD DETECTIVE,  
KID, BUT I'VE LEARNED  
SOME THINGS ABOUT  
THEM--THE PARTY  
ANIMALS. THEY'RE  
NOT WHAT THEY  
SEEM.





I'VE COME  
TO BELIEVE THAT  
WE CAN HELP EACH  
OTHER HERE. JUST  
GIVE ME A CHANCE  
TO EXPLAIN.  
PLEASE.



THIRTY  
SECONDS.

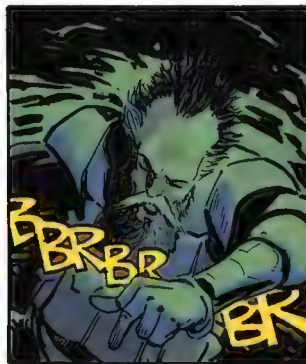


ALL RIGHT. THANK YOU.  
BUT WE NEED TO GET OUT  
OF HERE. THEY'RE ALL OVER  
THE PLACE. WE HAVE  
TO GET SOMEWHERE  
SAFE.

I HAVE  
A CAR HIDDEN  
OUT BACK. UNLESS  
YOU HAVE  
ONE?



BB



BRBR



BRBR



YOU'RE  
STANDING  
IN IT.

CLICK

BRBRRRR...









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BOB KANE WITH BILL FINGER**







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# ALL IN

This fall, the most exciting stories  
and the greatest writers and artists are

in the world are **ALL IN** DC series—  
**ALL IN** to bring them to you!





# ALL IN

DC'S ALL IN INITIATIVE CONTINUES IN NOVEMBER  
WITH SIX MAJOR NEW SERIES LAUNCHES!

Cassandra Cain is back in her first solo series in nearly two decades with *Batgirl* by Tate Brombal and Takeshi Miyazawa. The fan-favorite *JSA* unites courtesy of Jeff Lemire and Diego Olortegui. Jefferson Pierce—with his super-powered family in tow—is ready for action in *Black Lightning* by Brandon Thomas and Fico Ossio. Renee Montoya takes on a new role in *The Question: All Along the Watchtower* from Alex Segura and Cian Tormey. And it all leads to the return of the World's Greatest Super Heroes in *Justice League Unlimited* from the bestselling *Absolute Power* team of Mark Waid and Dan Mora!

In the Absolute Universe, meet the outlaw Man of Steel in *Absolute Superman* #1 by Jason Aaron and Rafa Sandoval!

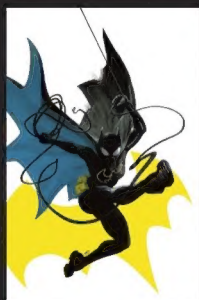
HERE'S YOUR GUIDE TO DC ALL IN THIS NOVEMBER:



**Absolute Superman #1**  
cover by Rafa Sandoval



**Justice League Unlimited #1**  
cover by Dan Mora



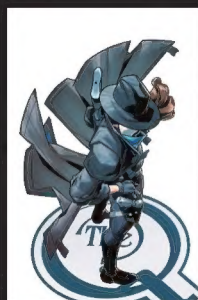
**Batgirl #1**  
cover by David Talaski



**JSA #1**  
cover by Diego Olortegui



**Black Lightning #1**  
cover by Fico Ossio



**The Question: All Along the Watchtower #1**  
cover by Cian Tormey

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*The Last Kryptonian-DCP*

